

JOINT TASK FORCE - FULL ACCOUNTING
BIOGRAPHIC/SITE REPORT AS OF 17 FEBRUARY 1994

===== BIOGRAPHIC INFORMATION =====

REFNO: 0948-0-01 (ACCNO 5657) Status: (N) DEAD BODY NOT RECOVERED
Name: POWERS, VERNIE HOMER Date Status assigned: 20 Mar 1968

Nationality	AMERICAN	Race	CAUCASIAN	Blood Chit	\$
Service	ARMY	Sex	MALE	Blood type	# #
Grade	E3	Hair	BROWN	Complexion	#
SSAN	DATA	Eyes	BLUE	Weapon	#
Serial No		Height	68 in / 1.73 mtrs	Weapon No	#
Birth date	12 Mar 1947	Weight	139 lb / 63.0 kg	Duty pos	RIFLEMAN
Home State	MARYLAND	Religion	PROTESTANT	PW Camp	\$

===== SITE INFORMATION =====

INCIDENT LOCATION (0)

Site Type: GROUND SITE
UTM: 48PYB793108
Lat/Long: 143326N / 1073532E
Country: SOUTH VIETNAM
Military Region: 2
Mission Province: KON TUM
(formerly): KONTUM
Mission District: SA THAY
Mission Date: 24 Dec 1967
Mission Category: 3
Local Analysis: Unknown location.

===== JTF-FA ACTIVITY SUMMARY =====

Investigations: Jan 94
Surveys: Jan 94
Vessey Case: NO
Case type: GROUND SITE - UNKNOWN LOSS

===== VEHICLE DATA =====

Vehicle Type: GRND	Serial: \$
Crash Type: None	Engine Type:
Call Sign: \$	1 Serial:
Year: \$	2 Serial:

===== SPECIAL CHARACTER KEY =====

= Item has been researched but data cannot be obtained.
\$ = Item is not applicable to this case.
@ or Blank = Data for item is unknown or not available.

CASE: 0948

=== CIRCUMSTANCES OF LOSS ===

11 December 1975

ON 24 DECEMBER 1967 PFC VERNIE H. POWERS WAS AN ACTING SQUAD LEADER IN THE 3RD BATTALION, 1ST BRIGADE, OF THE 4TH INFANTRY DIVISION AS AN ELEMENT OF A PLATOON-SIZE PATROL ON A MISSION TO ESTABLISH AN AMBUSH IN KONTUM PROVINCE, SOUTH VIETNAM: IN THE VICINITY OF GRID COORDINATES YB 793 108. DURING MOVEMENT TO THE AMBUSH SITE, HIS SQUAD MADE CONTACT WITH THE ENEMY AND PFC POWERS WAS WOUNDED BY A GUNSHOT ABOVE THE EYE.

WITNESSES, WHO INCLUDED THE PLATOON MEDIC, REPORTED THAT PFC POWERS BLED HEAVILY FROM THE MOUTH AND NOSE, AND DESPITE THE MEDIC'S EFFORTS, HE TURNED BLUE, AND APPARENTLY DIED. BECAUSE OF INCREASING ENEMY FIRE, THE PLATOON WITHDREW FROM THAT AREA, LEAVING THE BODY OF PFC POWERS, AND CALLED FOR AIR-STRIKES AND ARTILLERY FIRE FOR ABOUT ONE HOUR. WHEN ELEMENTS OF THE PLATOON RETURNED AFTER THE ARTILLERY AND AIRSTRIKES, PFC POWERS' BODY COULD NOT BE FOUND DURING THE THOROUGH SEARCH. (REF 1 & 2)

DURING THE EXISTENCE OF JCRC, THE HOSTILE THREAT IN THE AREA PRECLUDED ANY VISITS TO OR GROUND INSPECTIONS OF THE SITE INVOLVED IN THIS CASE. THE TWO-PARTY JOINT MILITARY COMMISSION WAS GIVEN DETAILS OF THE CASE, AND THE INDIVIDUAL'S NAME AND IDENTIFYING DATA WERE TURNED OVER TO THE FOUR-PARTY JOINT MILITARY TEAM WITH A REQUEST FOR ANY INFORMATION AVAILABLE. NO RESPONSE WAS FORTHCOMING. PFC POWERS IS CURRENTLY CARRIED IN THE PRESUMPTIVE STATUS OF DEAD, BODY NOT RECOVERED.

===== REFERENCES =====

11 December 1975

REFERENCES USED: <1> MSG, PUNCH REPORT #16741, 25 DEC 67. <2> RPT, REPORT OF BOARD PROCEEDINGS, 2 JAN 68. <3> CJTFFA DET ONE 010723Z FEB 94.

===== JOINT INVESTIGATION, SURVEY OR EXCAVATION =====

14 February 1994

ON 17 JAN 94, IE3 TRAVELED TO SA LONG VILLAGE, NGOC HOI DISTRICT, KONTUM PROVINCE TO INVESTIGATE CASE 0948. THE VNOSMP WAS UNABLE TO LOCATE WITNESSES FOR THIS CASE. CIVILIANS EVACUATED THE AREA DURING THE WAR, AND RESETTLED AFTER 1975. THE TEAM SURVEYED THE INCIDENT LOCATION AND QUESTIONED VILLAGERS, WITH NEGATIVE RESULTS. A SEARCH YIELDED NO EVIDENCE OF REMAINS, PERSONAL EFFECTS OR A BURIAL SITE. (REF 3)



JOINT TASK FORCE - FULL ACCOUNTING
CAMP H. M. SMITH, HAWAII 96861-5025

CASE 0948-0-01

NARRATIVE

ON 24 DECEMBER 1967, PRIVATE FIRST CLASS VERNIE H. POWERS AND OTHER MEMBERS OF HIS UNIT WERE ENGAGED IN COMBAT WITH A HOSTILE FORCE IN THE VICINITY OF GRID COORDINATES YB793108, APPROXIMATELY 50 KILOMETERS NORTHWEST OF KON TUM AND 6 KILOMETERS SOUTHWEST OF DAK WANG KRAM, KON TUM PROVINCE. DURING THE BATTLE, PRIVATE FIRST CLASS POWERS AND ANOTHER SOLDIER WERE KILLED. DUE TO THE INTENSE HOSTILE FIRE, U.S. FORCES WERE FORCED TO WITHDRAW WITHOUT RECOVERING THE TWO REMAINS. AFTER AN HOUR OF SUPPORTING ARTILLERY AND AIR STRIKES, U.S. FORCES RETURNED TO THE BATTLE FIELD AND RECOVERED THE REMAINS OF ONE SOLDIER. THEY FOUND VINES TIED AROUND HIS FEET. THE HOSTILE FORCE HAD APPARENTLY MADE AN ATTEMPT TO DRAG HIS BODY AWAY. U.S. FORCES SEARCHED THE AREA BUT WERE UNABLE TO LOCATE PRIVATE FIRST CLASS POWERS' BODY.

PERTINENT DATA ARE AS FOLLOWS:

NAME: POWERS, VERNIE HOMER
RANK: PRIVATE FIRST CLASS, U.S. ARMY
DATE OF BIRTH: 12 MARCH 1947
RACE: CAUCASIAN
HEIGHT: 1.73 METERS
WEIGHT: 63.0 KILOGRAMS
HAIR: BROWN
EYES: BLUE

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PASSED TO OFFICIALS OF THE
VIETNAMESE GOVERNMENT DURING THE
6 DEC 93 TECHNICAL MEETING



JOINT TASK FORCE - FULL ACCOUNTING
BOX 64044
CAMP H. M. SMITH, HAWAII 96861-4044

Vụ số 0948-0-01

TỔ TƯỜNG THUẬT

Vào ngày 24 tháng 12 năm 1967, Binh Nhất VERNIE H. POWERS và những người khác của đơn vị ông ta giao chiến với lực lượng đối phương trong phạm vi của tọa độ YB793108, cách khoảng 50 cây số về hướng tây bắc Kon Tum và 6 cây số về hướng tây nam Dak Wang Kram, tỉnh Kon Tum. Trong khi giao chiến thì Binh Nhất POWERS và một lính khác bị chết. Do hỏa lực mạnh của lực lượng đối phương thì lực lượng Hoa Kỳ bắt buộc rút lui không lấy được hai xác chết. Sau khi thời gian một giờ cố yểm trợ của pháo binh và oanh tạc thì lực lượng Hoa Kỳ trở về chiến trường và lấy lại một xác chết. Xác chết này có dây leo được buộc trên chân. Hình như lực lượng đối phương đã cố kéo xác chết khỏi khu vực. Lực lượng Hoa Kỳ tìm kiếm trong khu vực mà không tìm được thi hài của Binh Nhất POWERS.

Sau đây là những chi tiết liên quan:

Họ và tên:	POWERS, VERNIE HOMER
Đơn vị:	Binh Nhất, Lực Lượng Hoa Kỳ
Ngày sinh:	12 tháng 3 năm 1947
Chủng tộc:	Da trắng
Chiều cao:	1 thước 73
Cân nặng:	63 kg 0
Màu tóc:	Nâu
Màu mắt:	Xanh trời

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